

## General Psychology Unit 5 Short Answer Questions

### Chapter 8

2. Anterograde amnesia is commonly caused by brain trauma, such as a blow to the head. With anterograde amnesia, you cannot remember new information, although you can remember information and events that happened before your injury. The hippocampus is usually affected. This suggests that damage to the brain has resulted in the inability to transfer information from short-term to long-term memory; that is, the inability to consolidate memories.

Retrograde amnesia is a loss of memory for events that occurred before the trauma. People with retrograde amnesia cannot remember some or even all of their past. They have difficulty remembering episodic memories. For example, you are in an accident, and wake up in the hospital one day, surrounded by people claiming to be your spouse, your children, and your parents: the trouble is you do not recognize any of them. You were in a car accident, suffered a head injury, and now have retrograde amnesia. You do not remember anything about your life before waking up in the hospital.

5. Proactive interference is when old information hinders the recall of newly learned information. An example of proactive interference in everyday life would be the difficulty in remembering a friend's new phone number after having previously learned the old number.

Retroactive interference happens when information learned more recently hinders the recall of older information. For example, once you have learned a new mobile number, it is often very difficult to recall your old number.

**8.** Semantic encoding is the encoding of words and their meaning. For example, remembering the word "apple" by thinking about its meaning as a type of fruit, rather than just memorizing the letters or sounds of the word. Another example is remembering a person's name by associating it with something meaningful or memorable about that person, such as their appearance, personality, or occupation.

**11.** Memory bias is memories distorted by our current belief system. For example, we align memories with current beliefs. There are three types of memory bias. One is stereotypical bias, which involves racial and gender biases. For example, when Asian American and European American research participants were presented with a list of names, they more frequently incorrectly remembered typical African American names such as Jamal and Tyrone to be associated with the occupation basketball player, and they more frequently incorrectly remembered typical White names such as Greg and Howard to be associated with the occupation of politician. The second is an egocentric bias which involves enhancing our memories of the past. Did you really score the winning goal in that big soccer match, or did you just assist? The third is hindsight bias happens when we think an outcome was inevitable after the fact. This is the "I knew it all along" phenomenon. The reconstructive nature of memory contributes to hindsight bias. We remember untrue events that seem to confirm that we knew the outcome all along.

**15.** A flashbulb memory is an exceptionally clear recollection of an important event. I vividly remember the day I was officially diagnosed with epilepsy. It was July 2, 2019. The U.S. Women's National team was playing in the semifinals against England in the 2019 Women's

World Cup. I remember getting called back to the room with my neurologist when the U.S. committed a foul in the box, and England was given a penalty kick, so instead of heading straight back, I waited. I watched Alyssa Naeher make the pk (penalty kick) save that helped push the U.S. to the final. And when I did go back to see the doctor, I had the game pulled up on my phone, trying to block out the bad news I was receiving.

## **Chapter 9**

**39.** There are three stages of prenatal development: germinal, embryonic, and fetal. The germinal stage is the first stage of prenatal development, which begins at fertilization and lasts for approximately two weeks. During this stage, the fertilized egg, or zygote, begins to divide and differentiate into specialized cells. The embryonic stage is the second stage of prenatal development, which begins at the end of the germinal stage (around the second week after fertilization) and lasts until the end of the eighth week. During this stage, the embryo continues to differentiate and develop, with the formation of major organ systems and basic body structures. The fetal stage is the third and final stage of prenatal development, which begins at the end of the embryonic stage (around the ninth week after fertilization) and lasts until birth. During this stage, the fetus continues to grow and develop, with a focus on refining and maturing the organ systems and body structures that were formed during the embryonic stage.

**41.** In the uninvolved style of parenting, the parents are indifferent, uninvolved, and sometimes referred to as neglectful. They do not respond to the child's needs and make relatively few demands. This could be because of severe depression, substance abuse, or other factors such as

the parents' extreme focus on work. These parents may provide for the child's basic needs but little else. The children raised in this parenting style are usually emotionally withdrawn, fearful, and anxious, perform poorly in school, and are at an increased risk of substance abuse

**42.** Adolescence is a socially constructed concept. In pre-industrial society, children were considered adults when they reached physical maturity, but today we have an extended time between childhood and adulthood called adolescence. Adolescence is the period of development that begins at puberty and ends at emerging adulthood, which is discussed later. In the United States, adolescence is seen as a time to develop independence from parents while remaining connected to them. The typical age range of adolescence is from 12 to 18 years, and this stage of development also has some predictable physical, cognitive, and psychosocial milestones.

**54.** Hospice care aims to help provide death with dignity and pain management in a humane and comfortable environment, which is usually outside of a hospital setting; because of hospice care, many terminally ill people can spend their last days at home. Research has indicated that hospice care is beneficial for the patient and for the patient's family. Hospice patients report high levels of satisfaction with hospice care because they can remain at home and are not completely dependent on strangers for care. In addition, hospice patients tend to live longer than non-hospice patients. Family members receive emotional support and are regularly informed of their loved one's treatment and condition. The family member's burden of care is also reduced. Furthermore, both the patient and the patient's family members report increased family and social support and improved coping while receiving hospice services.

**59.** Postformal thinking is when decisions are made based on situations and circumstances, and logic is integrated with emotion as adults develop principles that depend on contexts. One way that we can see the difference between an adult in postformal thought and an adolescent in formal operations is in terms of how they handle emotionally charged issues. It seems that once we reach adulthood, our problem-solving abilities change: as we attempt to solve problems, we tend to think more deeply about many areas of our lives, such as relationships, work, and politics. Because of this, postformal thinkers can draw on past experiences to help them solve new problems. Problem-solving strategies using postformal thought vary, depending on the situation. For example, adults can recognize that what seems to be an ideal solution to a problem at work involving a disagreement with a colleague may not be the best solution to a disagreement with a significant other.